

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE ADOPTION

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES Division of Family and Children's Services

Mississippi Department of Human Services Donald R. Taylor, Executive Director c/o Rickie Felder, Director Division of Family & Children's Services 750 N. State Street Jackson, MS 39202 601-359-4999 rfelder@mdhs.state.ms.us

Specific Legal Authority authorizing the promulgation of Rule: Mississippi Code Sections 93-15-103 through 93-15-111 (Chapter 15, Termination of Rights of Unfit Parents) of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated

Reference to Rules repealed, amended or suspended by the Proposed Rule: Amending the DFCS policy manual

tyetter@mdhs.state.ms.us Explanation of the Purpose of the Proposed Rule and the reason(s) for proposing the rule: 1) Removed sections considered to be practice to a DFCS Worker's Practice Guide; 2) Added policy to define when voluntary surrender of parental rights would not be accepted by DFCS; 3) Defined timeline for parents to work with County of Responsibility on ISP; 4) Deleted policy regarding child over age fourteen (14); 5) Defined COR Worker's responsibilities in TPR; 6) Expanded diligent searches; 7) Added TPR Packet Checklist; 8) Added Placement Unit's procedure list This rule is proposed as a Final Rule, and/or a Temporary Rule (Check one or both boxers as applicable.) Persons may present their views on the proposed rule by addressing written comments to the agency at the above address. Persons making comments should include their name and address, as well as other contact information, and if you are an agent or attorney, the name, address and telephone number of the party or parties you represent. **Oral Proceeding:** Check one box below: An oral proceeding is scheduled on this rule on Date: June 18, 2007 Time: 11:00 A.M. Place: Mississippi Department of Human Services, 750 N. State St., Jackson, MS 39205 If you wish to be heard and present evidence at the oral proceeding you must make a written request to the agency at the above address at least __5__ day(s) prior to the proceeding to be placed on the agenda. The request should include your name, address, telephone number as well as other contact information; and if you are an agent or attorney, the name, address and telephone number of the party or parties you represent. An oral proceeding is not scheduled on this rule. Where an oral proceeding is not scheduled, an oral proceeding will be held if a written request for an oral proceeding is submitted by a political subdivision, an agency or ten (10) persons. The written request should be submitted to the agency contact person at the above address within twenty (20) days after the filing of this notice of proposed rule adoption and should include the name, address and telephone number of the person(s) making the request; and if you are an agent or attorney, the name, address and telephone number of the party or parties you represent. **Economic Impact Statement:** Check one box below: The agency has determined that an economic impact statement is not required for this rule, or The concise summary of the economic impact statement required is attached. The entire text of the Proposed Rule including the text of any rule being amended or changed is attached June 8, 2007 Date Rule Proposed: Proposed Effective Date of Rule: July 8, 2007

Signature and Title of Person Submitting Rule for Filing

Terri Yetter, Projects Officer II, Special/Policy